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States Government

Department of Energy

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Memorandum

JUN 6 6 25 AM '91 Rocky Flats Office

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JUN 04 1991

ERD:BRL:4202

Site-Wide Geologic Characterization Program

Erich Evered, Director
Environmental Restoration
EG&G Rocky Flats, Inc.

EG&G
ROCKY FLATS PLANT
CORRESPONDENCE CONTROL



DOE/ERD's recent review of the site-wide Phase II geologic characterization work plan submitted to DOE on May 13, 1991 has raised several concerns regarding its scope. Based upon our review the amount of drilling should be significantly reduced. This reduction is based upon the fact that not all of the operable units have recognized the overlap between this project and the IAG work plans. For instance, Operable Unit 2 has 14 drill locations proposed which fall under the scope of the Operable Unit 2 Alluvial Work Plan and should be managed as such. DOE/ERD was informed that the overlap has been acknowledged however, drill locations for both investigations have been staked in the field at different locations confirming the lack of coordination. An additional concern is the weaker confidence obtained from stratigraphic correlations inferred from buffer zone areas to areas where site specific information is planned or will be acquired anyway as part of the IAG. This later example refers specifically to the boreholes scheduled for the southwest portion of the buffer zone. These placements exhibit very tight control. If the lithology is believed to have such a high degree of heterogeneity then the confidence in correlations to more distant areas would not be reliable. DOE/ERD recognizes the importance of the geologic characterization project however we feel the same amount of information can be acquired from approximately 25 boreholes versus the proposed 65. Underlying these concerns is the fact that the IAG projects are of higher priority and should not be effected by ancillary projects, such as the site-wide geologic characterization. Delaying the start-up of this project is advised until the drilling projects for O.U. 1 and O.U. 2 are smoothly operating.

Several modifications to the scope of this project should also be considered. Through the O.U. 1 Interim Measure the presence of toluene has raised some concern because it had not been previously identified at this site. There has been speculation that it may be naturally occurring. This is a very important issue in facing our IAG projects. Furthermore, according to our field records significant organic vapor hits near a carbonaceous zone, at a depth of 200 feet, in well 171-89 were encountered. This concern has been raised to your staff and it also needs to be investigated to determine if its presence is natural or manmade.

Reviewed for Addressee
Corres. Control RFP


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Erich Evered
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Specific wells being accepted by ERD/DOE can be found on the following list. Further discussion concerning the project scope and finalizing the borehole placements will be necessary. Please call call Brent Lewis of our staff at extension 4765 to further discuss the remaining issues.



Frazer R. Lockhart
Director
Environmental Restoration Division

Attachment

Acceptable Well Placements

BH2-3 BH2-1 BH1-12 BH1-11 BH2-43 BH1-10 BH1-9 BH1-6
BH1-5 BH1-4 BH1-7 BH1-8 BH1-3 BH2-40 BH2-39 BH2-42
BH2-41 BH2-8 BH2-17 BH2-6 BH1-1 BH2-45 BH2-9 BH2-12
BH2-38